

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 101, 104-108, 111-115, 118-122, and 125-128 are pending in this application, with claims 101, 106, 108, 113, 115, 120, 122, and 127 being independent. By this amendment, claims 102, 103, 109, 110, 116, 117, 123, and 124, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, claims 101, 105-108, 112-115, 118-122, and 126-128 have been amended to more clearly define aspects of the invention. Support for these changes can be found in the specification, as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

In the Office Action mailed May 20, 2004, claims 101-128 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,449,055, to Okimoto et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,639,687 to Neilsen. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As now recited in independent claim 1, the present invention recites a novel information processing apparatus which communicates with a printer having a job data channel which receives a print job. The information processing apparatus includes packets generating means for generating a plurality of job packets, each including a header, which identifies print data, as a print job, and transfer control means for controlling transfer of the job packets generated by the packets generating means via the job data channel. The packets generating means generates cancel packets containing an instruction to cancel the print job if a cancel instruction of the print job is detected while transferring the job packets via the job data channel. The transfer control means controls the transfer of the cancel packets via the job data channel. The printer stores data, taken from the job packets received via the job data channel, in a storage

unit based on analyzing the header of the job packets, and the printer issues cancellation of processing of the print data if a cancel packet is confirmed based on analyzing the header of the job packets received via the job data channel.

According to another aspect of the invention, independent claim 106 recites a novel printer having a data channel that receives print data and is communication with an information processing apparatus. The printer includes a first receiving device, an analyzing device, and storage means. The first receiving device receives a plurality of job packets, via a job data channel, the job packets being generated by the information processing apparatus and each including a header, which identifies print data, as a print job. The analyzing device analyzes the header of the job packets received by the first receiving device. The storage means stores data taken from the job packets received via the job data channel, in a storage unit based on the analysis of the analyzing device.

Independent claims 108, 115, and 122 recite a processing method for an information processing apparatus, computer-executable steps for a processing method for an information processing apparatus, and a computer-readable storage medium on which are stored computer executable process steps for a processing method for an information processing apparatus, respectively. The features of these claims generally correspond to the features of apparatus claim 101.

Similarly, independent claims 113, 120, and 127 recite a processing method for a printer, computer-executable steps for a processing method for a printer, and a computer-readable storage medium on which are stored computer executable process steps for a processing

method for a printer, respectively. The features of these claims generally correspond to the features of apparatus claim 106.

By the invention thus claimed, a header of a job packet is analyzed. Based on the analysis of this header, a printer stores data in a storage unit, and the printer cancels processing of print data if a cancel packet is confirmed during the analysis. An advantage of this arrangement, for example, is that a print job can be rapidly cancelled through only analysis of job packet headers, thus resulting in minimized waste of, e.g., excess paper and toner, due to excess time required for a printer to recognize a cancel instruction of a print job.

Applicant submits that many features of the independent claims are not taught or suggested by the cited patents, whether taken alone, or in combination.

Okimoto et al. relates to a printing system in which, when printing e-mails, a job is selected from an e-mail transmission history list, and by giving a cancel instruction, cancel mail that has been assigned a plurality of job IDs is transferred.

Nielsen relates to a progress indicator for multiple actions and at column 9, line 48, through column 10, line 24, discusses logic executed when a print job is canceled. This portion discloses that a CancelJob routine is begun when a “Cancel Job” button is pressed. This CancelJob routine includes looping through a job list 52 to determine whether a listed job entry object matches the print job that has been selected to be cancelled. When a match is found, the CancelJob routine calls the CancelJobRoutine, which transfers a message to the printer manager 6 to terminate a thread and the print job.

However, nowhere is either Okimoto et al. or Neilsen understood to teach or suggest at least generating a plurality of job packets, each including a header, which identifies print data, as

a print job; controlling transfer of the job packets via a job data channel; generating cancel packets if a cancel instruction of a print job is detected and transferring the cancel packets; and a printer storing data in a storage unit based on analyzing the header of the packets and issuing cancellation of processing if the cancel packet is confirmed, as generally recited in independent claims 101, 108, 115, and 122. Moreover, neither of these references are understood to teach or suggest at least receiving plural job packets, each including a header, which identifies print data, as a print job; analyzing the header of the job packets; storing data in a storage unit based on the analysis; and canceling processing of the stored print data if a cancel packet is confirmed based on the analysis, as generally recited in independent claims 106, 113, 120, and 127.

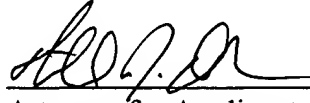
For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that Okimoto et al. and Neilsen, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest many features of the independent claims. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the independent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

The remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims. Each of these claims are believed to be allowable by virtue of this dependency, and for reciting other patentable features of the invention. Favorable and independent consideration of the dependent claims are respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and an early passage to issuance are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Didas", is written over a horizontal line.

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